

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:521
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
TRIBAL DANCES ART AND FOLKLORE
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether teams are sent to remote areas to study tribal dances, art and folklore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the other measures being adopted to give due recognition to their traditional cultural activities?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (c): The Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres to extend support to folk and traditional artistes and artisans of the country. These Zonal Cultural Centres depute teams to remote areas to study tribal dances, art and folklore under the Scheme for Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms. Some of the traditional art forms documented so far are- Lama Dance of Sikkim; Folk Tales from hills and fields of Orissa; Mizo Traditional Games;

Malita (Ballad) of Assam; Wari Leeba of Manipur; Traditional Textiles of Manipur and its Socio Cultural Significance; Folk musical instruments of Orissa; Geets f Kaligopal Nat (Ankia Geet), Assam; Gambhira of West Bengal; Sambhalpuri dance of Orissa; Mayurbhanj Chhau of Orissa; Purulia Chhau of West Bengal; Gotipua and Pattachitra of Orissa; Life Style of Ladakh; Living Tradition in Spiti & Kullu Valley; Life Style of Kinnaur. The Ministry of Culture is also implementing a Scheme for Promotion and Dissemination of Tribal/Folk art and Culture. Under this Scheme, financial assistance is provided to Voluntary Organizations/Institutions/Individuals engaged in preservation and promotion of Tribal/Folk Art and Culture. Besides, National School of Drama is implementing a Scheme for Promotion of Folk and Tribal Arts Theatre under which various folk and tribal theatre groups are invited to participate every year in National Theatre Festival and Bal Sangam.

In addition to this, under National Cultural Exchange Programme (NCEP) operated by Zonal Cultural Centres, tribal troupes are sent to various parts within the Zone as well as the State coming in the purview of other Zonal Cultural Centre also. In November 2006, the Zonal Cultural Centres participated in National Tribal Festival 'Prakriti' organized in collaboration with Ministry of Tribal Affairs in which more than 400 artistes participated. The Zonal Cultural Centres also operate a "Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme" for promotion of traditional & folk theatre.